



Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority

MEMBERS OF THE PROJECT AUTHORITY

EASTERN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
INLAND EMPIRE UTILITIES AGENCY
ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
WESTERN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

June 6, 2006

Mr. Mark Adelson
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board
3737 Main Street, #500
Riverside, CA 92501

Dear Mr. Adelson:

The Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA) would like to request that an additional item be added to the RWQCB 2006 Basin Plan Triennial Review Priority List. The item would request RWQCB staff support, in an advisory and collaborative role, to assist in the development of the next update to SAWPA's Integrated Watershed Plan and address watershed-wide salt management strategies.

In regards to the Integrated Watershed Plan, as part of recent goal setting meetings held by the SAWPA Commission, strong interest was expressed for SAWPA to work closely with the RWQCB in preparing the next Integrated Watershed Plan. SAWPA periodically prepares an Integrated Watershed Plan to support water resource needs and address water quality issues in the Santa Ana Watershed. This plan was last updated in June 2005, and the next update is scheduled for completion in FY 2008. Since the RWQCB also has been tasked to conduct planning related to water resources in the Santa Ana Watershed, establishing a collaborative approach to the Integrated Watershed Plan update with the RWQCB may be deemed mutually beneficial.

As part of the Integrated Watershed planning approach, SAWPA works closely with SAWPA's member agencies and local agencies in this effort. Through the RWQCB's assistance in providing staff to serve in an advisory role to this collaborative effort by attending periodic meetings, a better developed and coordinated integrated plan is anticipated. Further, it is hoped that periodic updates of the planning process could be provided by the RWQCB staff to the RWQCB Board to show effective collaboration and planning with the water community and also to help ensure support for the final work product.

Further, the Watershed is engaged in considerable efforts to address cooperative watershed-wide salt management. Regional Board staff participation in this cooperative process would provide the opportunity for understanding and input into these issues critical to the future of the watershed. This process will also include those who have strong interests in the methods of basin plan implementation.

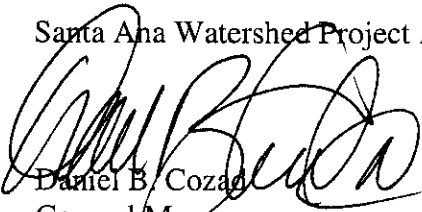


Mr. Mark Adelson
June 6, 2006
Page 2

We appreciate your assistance in considering this request for additions to the RWQCB's Triennial Review Priority List. If you have any questions regarding this request, please feel free to contact Mark Norton, Water Resources and Planning Manager at (951) 354-4221.

Sincerely,

Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority



Daniel B. Cozad
General Manager

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